



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**CITY OF EVANSVILLE
Mesker Park Lift Station Improvements
Preliminary Engineering Report D Addendum #2: Project #9
SRF # WW 08 13 82 05**

Date: December 6, 2012

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the city's Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #2 received by the SRF on October 9, 2012 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-232-8623; mhensche at ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	Mesker Park Lift Station Improvements Preliminary Engineering Report D Addendum #2: Project #9 City of Evansville 1 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 104 Evansville, IN 47740-0001
SRF Project Number:	WW 08 13 82 05
Authorized Representative:	Mr. Allen Mounts, Director Evansville Water and Sewer Utility

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Evansville is located in southeastern Vanderburgh County. The Mesker Park lift station project area is located in the Evansville North IND USGS 7.5 topographic quadrangle in Perry Township, T6S, R11W, northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ section 14 (see Exhibit 9-2).

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The Mesker Park lift station lies within a separate sanitary sewer service area of the Westside Wastewater Treatment Plant that serves approximately four commercial establishments, as well as the Zoo and Botanical Garden. The city anticipates Zoo and Botanical Garden expansion within the next 20-years.

This type of lift station is becoming obsolete because of changing regulations for confined space entry into the pump pit. Other problems associated with this lift station include: inadequate hydraulic capacity based on the future expansion of the Zoo and Botanical Garden; decommissioned man lift; no onsite safety equipment; no wet well vent; exposed electrical wires within the dry pump pit; deteriorating dry pit walls and floor; and the potential for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) exists during electrical or mechanical failures. The lift station needs to be upgraded and expanded to address these problems.

The proposed project includes: converting the lift station from a dry pit/wet well configuration to a submersible lift station with two constant speed pumps rated at 400 gpm each; rehabilitating the existing wet well by using multi-layered polymer resin, while replacing the top slab with a new one having an appropriately sized hatch; removing the existing dry well from the surface to approximately one foot below the bottom of the proposed valve pit, while filling the remaining

portion of the dry well with concrete; constructing a new valve pit on the existing site and connecting the new force main to the existing force main; and replacing the existing control panel with a new one capable of interacting with the communication system (see Exhibit 9-12).

Two alternatives were evaluated for the lift station improvements project including the “No Action” alternative.

The “No Action” alternative was rejected since the existing lift station would continue to deteriorate resulting in increased maintenance and eventually failing causing the potential for SSOs to occur.

Existing Lift Station Upgrade – This alternative proposes upgrades and modernization of the lift station to bring it up to current standards. This is the selected alternative.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Selected Plan Cost Summary

<u>Construction Components</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Mobilization/Demobilization/Bonds/Insurance	\$ 10,300
Complete Bypass Pumping	15,000
Demolish Dry Well	4,100
Rehabilitate Wet Well	16,102
Wet Well Pumps, Rail, Brackets, & Piping	45,000
Pump Control Panels and Floats	20,400
Radio Equipment	7,000
Valve Pit & Appurtenances	35,000
Approximately 20 feet of 6-inch Force Main	1,300
Site Restoration	<u>2,460</u>
Subtotal Estimated Construction Costs	\$156,662
Contingencies	<u>15,666</u>
Total Estimated Construction Costs	\$172,328
Non- Construction Costs	
Administrative and Legal	\$ 2,500
Engineering Design Fees	21,750
Planning Fees	13,113
Project Inspection	<u>22,000</u>
Total Non-Construction Costs	\$ 59,363
Total Estimated Project Costs	\$231,691

- B. The city has sufficient funds remaining from the 20-year loan of \$31,750,000 which the city closed with the SRF on October 19, 2009, to fund this project.

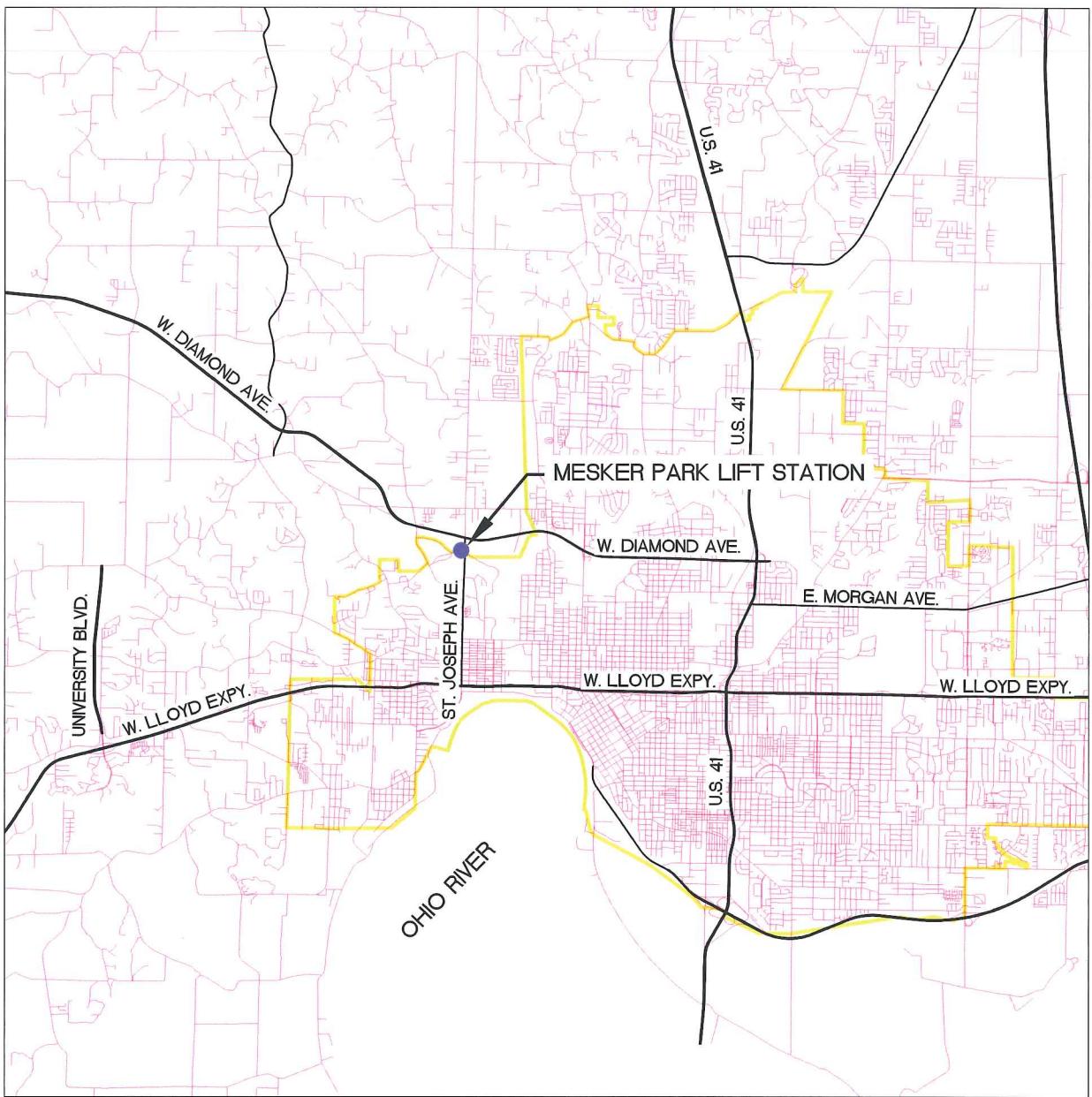
V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The project will occur in a previously disturbed area and will not affect endangered species or their habitat, streams, wetlands, or the 100-year floodplain.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties (see Exhibit 9-9). If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected"

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held at the Central Library, Browning Event Room A – Central on September 28, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the addendum to the Preliminary Engineering Report. No one from the public attended the hearing, and no written comments were received.



LEGEND

- EXISTING SANITARY LIFT STATION
- EVANSVILLE CORPORATE LIMITS



0 5000' 10000' 20000'

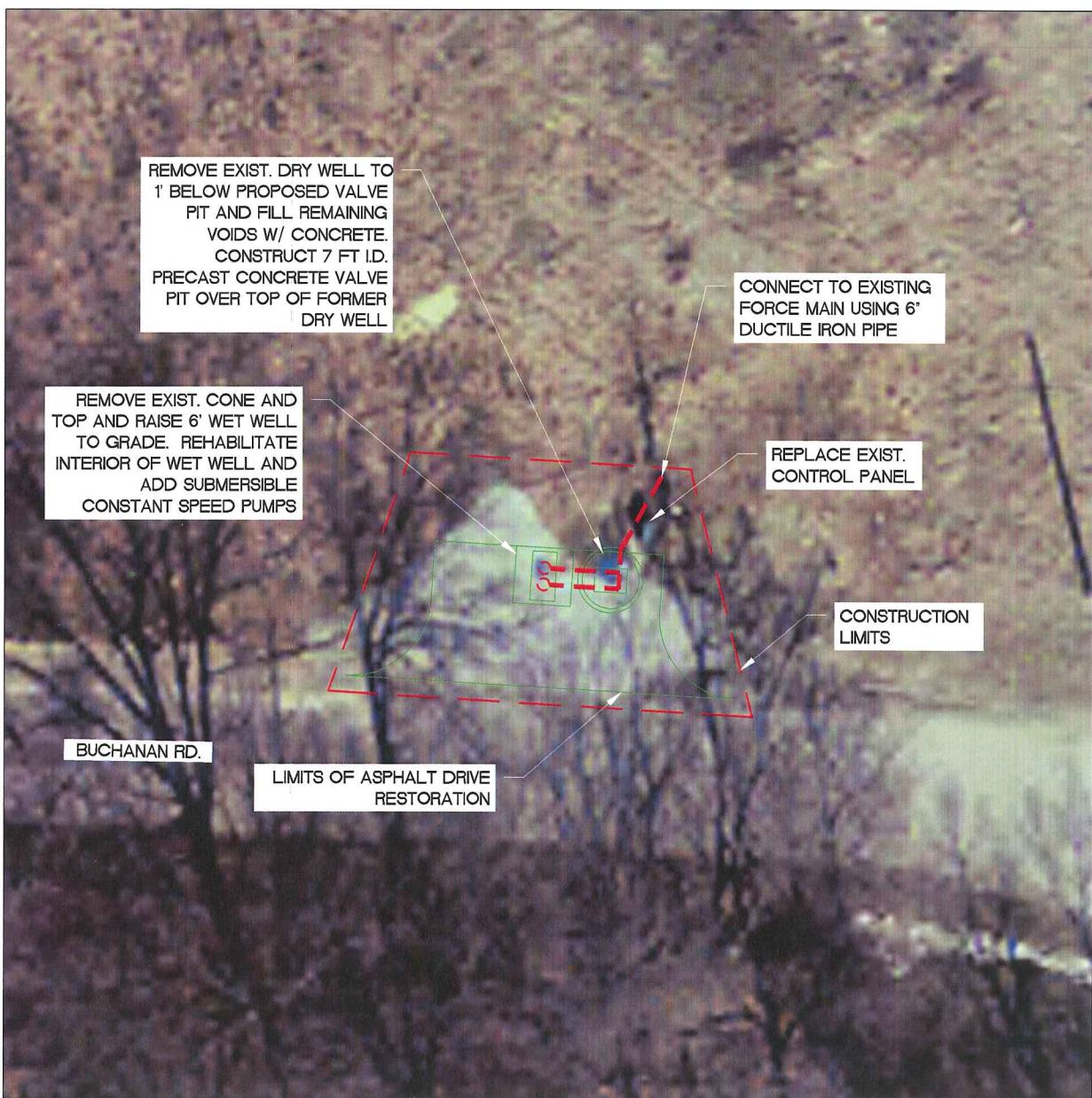
SCALE: 1" = 10000'

RECORD NO. 12-2011-2-1865 REV PER Amendment 1 DRAWINGS AND EXHIBITS FOR MESKER PARK\\
BASIS OF DESIGN:\\
DRAWN BY: AMERICAN
DATE: 05/2012 - 9:08pm
Sep 05 2012



VS ENGINEERING, INC.
4275 N. HIGH SCHOOL RD. INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46254
TEL: (317) 293-3542 FAX: (317) 293-4737

CITY OF EVANSVILLE	EXHIBIT
ADDENDUM No. 1 TO PER D, PROJECT No. 9	9-2
MESKER PARK LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS	
OVERALL LOCATION MAP	



AERIAL: SPRING 2005

LEGEND

- CONSTRUCTION LIMITS
- - - - - PROPOSED FORCEMAIN
- PROPOSED VALVE PIT
- PROPOSED WET WELL



0 10' 20' 40'
SCALE: 1" = 20'

DRY CREEK 2-2865 UV PER Amendment 03 MESKER PARK, IN
FILED 12-12-2012 PROP SITE MESKER, IN
DATE 12-12-2012 - 6:52am

NOTE:
FOR EXISTING SITE LAYOUT
SEE EXHIBIT 9-7

REVISED 12/3/12



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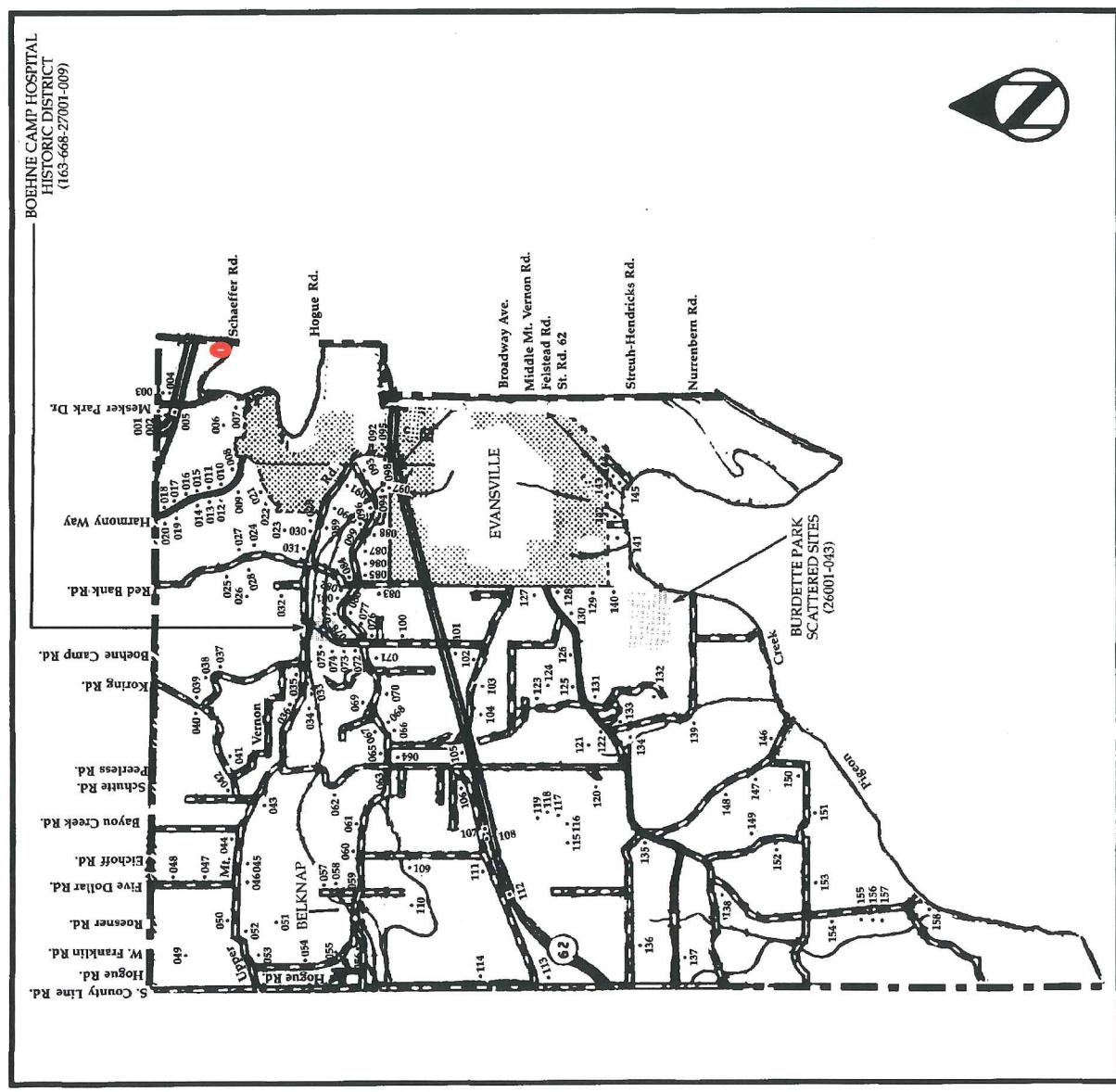
CITY OF EVANSVILLE WATER AND SEWER UTILITY

ADDENDUM No. 1 TO PER D, PROJECT No. 9
MESKER PARK LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS

PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

**EXHIBIT
9-12**

Perry Township (25001-158)



Perry Township is located in the western section of Vanderburgh County. It was organized in 1840 from a section of neighboring Pigeon Township and was named for Oliver Hazard Perry, a War of 1812 naval hero. The township's fertile soil and access to Bayou Creek and the Ohio River, made the township ideal for farming.

George Linxweiler established a farm in the area in 1806, the earliest recorded settlement. Others soon followed including the Stinson family, who would become prominent in the county's political and religious arenas.

As in other parts of Vanderburgh County, Perry Township experienced a wave of settlement during the 1830s and 1840s. Large numbers of Germans came to the area, drawn by the fertile farmland. Many of their descendants remained in the township and their influence on the township's architecture is apparent.

Perry Township retains a significant collection of early hewn log structures. The 1836 John Bessemer House (25018) and the house at 5117 Hogue Road (25082) are rare examples of the log hall-and-parlor house. The log double-pen house is represented by the Zurstadt House (25122) and the Mesker House (25151). Two examples of the log I-house include the Jung House (25037) and the Temme House (25060).

In addition to these hewn log houses, a number of log outbuildings have also survived. Examples of the log single-crib barn are found on the Welborn Farm (25132) and the Mesker Farm (25151). Two of the county's only hewn log double-crib barns are found on the Jung Farm (25037) and at 7800 University Boulevard (25116).

The township's strong German heritage is also reflected in the large number of modified

Mesker Park Scattered Sites (50001-023)

During the early 1900s, several of Evansville's leading citizens, including industrialist George Mesker, donated 120 acres of land to the city for a park. It was during the progressive administration of Mayor Benjamin Bosse that the first major developments took place in what was known as Mesker Park. In 1917, with a \$25,000 donation from Mesker, the city awarded contracts for a shelter house and bandstand.

Five years later, the city acquired the Helfrich tract, roughly the parcel of land that is now used for the municipal golf course.

After the acquisition, the city retained the services of the noted design firm of Chicago Park Builders to continue work on the park.

On the firm's staff was nationally known golf course designer Thomas Bendelow who laid out the Helfrich Golf Course (50021) on the south end of the park.

It was largely through the efforts of park board member and zoo director Gilmore Haynie that the park's main attraction, the zoo, developed. In 1928, two lions, presented to the zoo by the American Circus Corporation of Peru, Indiana were the zoo's first exhibit. The following year, Kay the elephant, purchased with money raised in a city-wide fund drive arrived at the zoo. During the next decade, Haynie's innovative designs for the animal exhibits gained national attention.

Haynie pioneered the use of the "barless" design. The bear pit (50012), built in 1932 and the lion pit (50011) constructed in 1934 both feature steep faux rock/gummit walls on the rear and sides and a deep trench across the front. This keeps the animals contained without the use of bars, allows for natural rock settings and caves for shelter in the rear of the exhibit and permits unobstructed viewing of the animals from the front. The Evansville Rotary Club

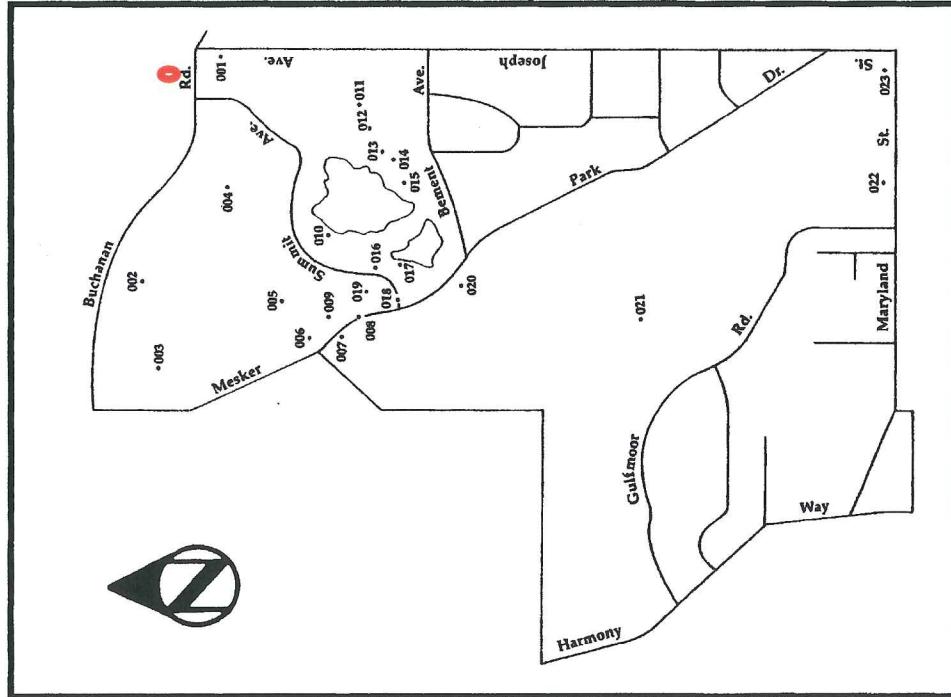
financed the third Haynie design, the "Monkey Boat," (50020), an exhibit that proved to be a perennial favorite at the zoo. This exhibit featured a concrete replica of Christopher Columbus' flagship the Santa Maria. The boat's rigging provided a place for exercising, the open cabins gave shelter, and the water moat surrounding the ship prevented the monkeys from escaping.

The exhibits, like many of the park's other improvements during the 1930s, were constructed using labor from several federally-funded programs. Men from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration built the bear pit and in 1930, youth from the NYA completed the Helfrich Field Shelter House (50022). This building, constructed of local stone served the baseball diamonds, tennis courts and other sports fields at the south end of the park.

By 1936, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) had a camp of 13 buildings set up on the east side of the park. Two notable CCC companies were stationed here in 1936: Veteran Company #1565 and Junior Company #539. The first was a group of African-American World War I veterans and the second was an African-American youth corps. These young men stabilized the soil on eroding picnic areas, planted trees, developed new picnic areas, scenic overlooks and park roads. They built a plaza overlooking the lion exhibit and were responsible for Shelter House #15 (50002) on the north end of the park.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) also left its mark on the park. From 1938-39, WPA workers built animal barns and exhibits at the zoo, constructed paths, foot bridges and parking lots, resodded the golf course and did other soil conservation projects.

Since World War II two things have dominated development at the park: Mesker Amphitheater (50009) and continued zoo expansion. In 1952 the amphitheater opened and since that time has been a community resource. The zoo has also continued to grow commensurate with its stature as Indiana's second largest zoological park.



Mesker Park is located in the northwest corner of Evansville on a series of wooded hills overlooking the city. This expansive municipal park includes a variety of entertainment venues including a zoo, golf course, swimming pool, amphitheatre and picnic shelters. From its inception during the early twentieth century through a series of major improvements during the Depression era, Mesker Park provides a glimpse of the evolution of an urban park.